

REMARKS

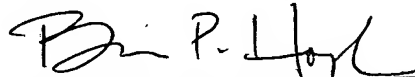
The present application is a continuation of parent U.S. application No. 09/818,290, having been allowed on June 2, 2003, the issue fee paid on August 14, 2003 (due September 2, 2003).

The specification has been amended to include statements related to the parent application.

Claim 1 is now pending. Claims 2-46 were cancelled. Claim 1 is independent. Consideration of the subject application is respectfully requested. Applicants will prepare a subsequent Supplemental Preliminary Amendment in due course. Should the assigned Examiner pick up the present application for examination on the merits prior to receiving the Supplemental Preliminary Amendment, Applicants respectfully request that the Examiner contact the below named attorney to expedite the filing of such.

Please charge any additional fees that may be due, or credit any overpayment of same, to Deposit Account No. 50-0311 (Reference No. 21535-006 CON), Customer No. 35437.

Respectfully submitted,



Brian P. Hopkins, Reg. No. 42,669
Attorneys for Applicants
MINTZ, LEVIN, COHN, FERRIS,
GLOVSKY AND POPEO, P.C.
Chrysler Center
666 Third Avenue, 24th Floor
New York, New York 10017
Tel: (212) 935-3000
Fax: (212) 983-3115